



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Somers et al. Confirmation No.: 2279  
Serial No.: 09/551,445  
Filed: 04/18/2000  
Examiner: Sameh Tawfik  
Art Unit: 3721  
Customer No.: 23280  
Docket No.: 600.1040

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MAIL STOP: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 26, 2004

Sir:

In response to the office action dated May 17, 2004, please reconsider the above-identified patent application based on the following remarks: